



United States
Department of
Agriculture

Forest
Service

Manti-La Sal
National Forest

Supervisor's Office
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File Code: 2820-4/1950
Date: July 27, 2006

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7/15/2006
Copy Joe: Hays H.

Dear Forest User:

The Manti-La Sal National Forest sent you a letter on July 6, 2006, inviting your comments on an environmental analysis to evaluate a mining plan modification for the Bear Canyon Coal Mine. C.O.P. Mining has modified their permit change application from mining only the Tank Seam to mining the Tank Seam as well as the Upper and Lower Hiawatha seams. The current proposed mine plan would include multiple-seam mining and mining over a larger area, increasing the area susceptible to subsidence and the potential magnitude of subsidence. Therefore, I am extending the comment period to allow interested groups or individuals to comment on the mining plan modification.

The Tank Seam is of mineable thickness in the southern portion of the mine plan modification area, and thins to the north. The Upper and Lower Hiawatha seams are of mineable thickness in the northern portion of the mine plan modification area and thin to the south. There is some overlap of the seams where multiple-seam mining would occur. The current plan is to ramp down inside the mine from the Tank Seam to the Hiawatha Seams, precluding the need for a new portal to access the Hiawatha Seams. Please contact Karl Boyer at (435) 636-3548 if you require more detailed information.

The public is invited to comment on the Manti-La Sal National Forest's proposed approval of the current mine plan modification. Comments received, including names and addresses of those who comment, will be considered part of the public record for this project and will be available for public inspection. The FS requests comments that are relevant to environmental concerns directly related to the proposed project.

Please send written comments to Eileen F. Richmond, Acting Forest Supervisor, Manti-La Sal National Forest, 599 West Price River Drive, Price, Utah 84501; phone (435) 637-2817; e-mail: comments-intermtn-manti-lasal-ferron-price@fs.fed.us. E-mailed comments must be submitted in MS Word (#.doc) or rich text format (*.rtf). Comments may also be delivered to the above address during regular business hours of 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday-Friday, excluding federal holidays. Comments should be received on or before August 21, 2006.

Sincerely,

Eileen F. Richmond
for
EILEEN F. RICHMOND
Acting Forest Supervisor

RECEIVED
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DIV. OF OIL, GAS

